

# Sea Turtle Volunteer Program

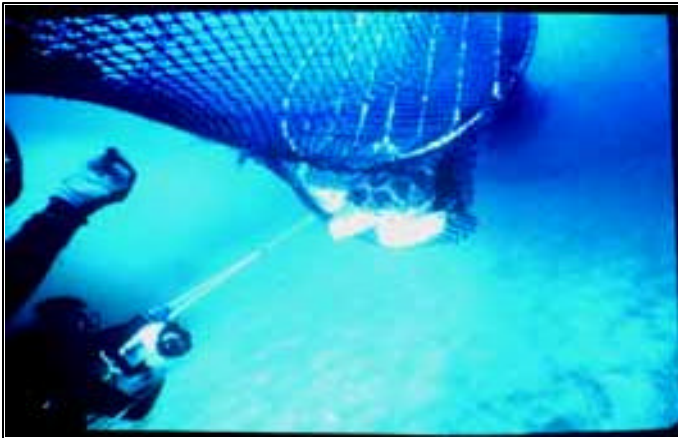
## Share the Beach



Newsletter of the USFWS Daphne Field Office

July 10, 2002

<http://daphne.fws.gov>



Turtle escaping from TED / NMFS photo

### Just a Reminder

- Please send us your email address. You can email it to [seaturtle2002@hotmail.com](mailto:seaturtle2002@hotmail.com)
- Our next meeting is Thursday July 12th
- Visit the Hatchling Training webpage at [http://daphne.fws.gov/Share\\_the\\_Beach/stvp.htm](http://daphne.fws.gov/Share_the_Beach/stvp.htm)

### Contact Us:

1-866-SEA-TURTLE, x 41  
or  
251-441-5181, x 41

### Share the Beach Newsletter

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The Share the Beach newsletter is published by the Daphne Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Drawer 1190, Daphne, AL 36526. Tel. 251-441-5181. Fax 251-441-6222. Web site: <http://daphne.fws.gov>.

## Share the Beach Update

We would like to thank everyone who responded to our request for more volunteers to patrol Gulf Shores Public Beach and Orange Beach. We still need more volunteers for the Orange Beach team. Please give us a call at the office if you can help out.

### "Adopt-A-Nest"

The Friends of Bon Secour have developed a new fundraising program called "Adopt-A-Nest." This program allows the public to sponsor or "adopt" one of our sea turtle nests along the AL Gulf Coast.

There are three levels of adoption. Shoreline Sponsors are those who donate \$250 or more, nesting sponsors donate \$50 or more, and hatchling sponsors donate \$10 or more. Depending on the amount they donate, the sponsors will receive a special package, including such

items as a picture of the nest, a framed certificate, and their name displayed on the nest. All donations are tax deductible.

A few nests have already been adopted, so the program is off to a good start. For more information on "Adopt-A-Nest" call 251-540-2420 or 251-540-7950.



Loggerhead hatchling/USFW photo

### Nest Update

As of July 9th we have a total of 54 nests. The first nest is due to hatch within the next five days at Bon Secour NWR. Remember to keep checking your nests on your daily patrols to be sure they haven't been disturbed and that the stakes and flagging tape are still intact. We will be handing out updated maps of the approximate location of each of the nests at the next meeting.

Bon Secour/ Ft. Morgan: 27 nests

West Beach #1: 2 nests

Laguna Key: 7 nests

Gulf State Park: 4 nests

West Beach #2: 1 nest

Orange Beach: 5 nests

AL Point/ Ono Island: 8 nests

We expect July to be the busiest month for the females to lay their eggs. Remember that every turtle has a different style and her eggs may not be where you expect them to be. If the eggs are not found under the "mound" keep looking and broaden your search area. If a female has gone through the trouble of coming all the way up the beach and digging than there are probably eggs there.

### Important Dates

Our next monthly meeting will be on Thursday, July 12 at Gulf State Park Resort Hotel in the Neptune Room at 6:30 PM. Please make an effort to attend. We will be reviewing hurricane protocol and continuing with hatchling training. It is crucial that the team leaders are up to date with the protocol because you never know when a storm is going to develop.